

Arlington Cultural Commission Minutes as approved 12.12.13

November 5, 2013

7:30 – 9 pm

Cutter Gallery

ATTENDING: Adria Arch, David Ardito, Roly Chaput, Barbara Costa, Nora Mann;
(NOT ATTENDING: Stephanie Marlin-Curiel)

- Debrief on previous meeting (presentation by Rose Austin)
 - Discussed the enthusiasm, need to harness and take a next step. Adria incorporated contacts into her email list. Need to assess who might have NOT been there and reach out.
 - Possible followup email to congrats everyone for meeting, David willing to draft. Let them know what we're thinking about re: next steps, including eliciting their thoughts re: decommissioning public art .
 - ATED – had good representation –. Can Roly ask if there is thought within ATED about how they would envision their role vis-à-vis Cultural Commission.
 - One clear message from community meeting was the need for central website and calendar. ATED has calendar but not being populated. Things to consider: there are already many individual sites, need to make sure that their input is actively solicited and brand this central calendar as belonging to everyone. Need to think about link to the Town's site and the long term goal of being the host to the comprehensive arts/culture calendar – Model Malden Arts.
 - Intern: Tom Davison has applied for a Cultural Council grant to get an intern
 - to help with events over the summer – this is different from the ACC proposal for an Arts Liaison but may be a valuable first step. Individually, Adria and Nora have indicated their support to Tom.

2 Adria's idea of community award

- Deferred. But it's what communities do to get organizations to do what communities need -- get businesses involved in the arts, best way is to give an award for the behavior we want to encourage! We just don't have the bandwidth now.

3 Mission Statement: Need a couple of sentences about what the cultural Commission IS – to go with calendar.

- Based upon previous discussion and submissions by Dave and Roly, we agreed on some language that will be an initial/mission statement.: “The mission of the Arlington Cultural Commission is to serve as a vocal, strong, and visible advocate for arts and culture in Arlington, to advise to the Board of Selectmen regarding all matters of a cultural or artistic nature, and to preserve and increase the cultural and artistic resources and opportunities in the Town.”

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4 Decommissioning/Commissioning public art

- In response to loss of the mural at the bus turn-around and requests from affected constituencies, we drafted a proposed policy to address the

expectations of the artist and property owner. Clearly different situation is private property or town owned property.

- For private property, it could be offered as a best practice. We might ask/recommend that the BoS adopt it as a policy for art on town owned property. Will have to be vetted thru town counsel.
- DAVE WILL REVISE WITH STEPHANIE; NORA CAN GIVE IT A LOOK AS WELL.
- We should generate a map of arts and culture sites in Arlington – like Jane Howard's Vision 2020 map.

5 Arts and Culture Liaison – job description exists.

- Next steps – plan for it as an unpaid intern project through local graduate schools for 12-18 months, with goal that it become a funded position.
- Need to work with town to see whether there could be a space/phone/computer/e-mail address for this person (say 15hrs/week)_
- Ideally grad student in arts administration, for course credit. Lesley, BU... Eventually get paid position. BARBARA AND ADRIA will pursue meeting on getting location for intern in Town offices.
- Must try to figure out some way to generate revenue, a funding mechanism – we can present this to BOS as a goal for next year, need their support. Not enough time now for next Town Meeting but we can work on it for TM 2015.

6 Filling the board – missing 7th commissioner: NORA will ask Adam Chapdelaine re Commissioner #7. Nora's term expires soon (January). Subsequent terms would be 3 years.

7 New Business

- David passed around postcards announcing David Moore's show at the Old Schwamb Mill
- Adria announced first public art exhibition in the park, at Menotomy Rocks park, huge – a first – with the support of Joe Connelly. They will provide liability insurance but APA will pay. Friends of all the Parks will be meeting next week.

8 NEXT MEETING: Due to conflicts, instead of usual 1st Thursday, we will meet Wednesday, December 11, at 7:30 pm; Nora to find location.

Respectfully submitted (in Stephanie's absence) by Barbara Costa with Nora Mann